

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for encrypting data, the method comprising:
  - providing a first data processing system for a first user and a second data processing system for a second user;
  - providing a session key randomly generated by the second system for use in encrypting original data;
  - encrypting the data using the session key and a symmetric encryption routine;
  - encrypting the session key, with a public key of the first user using an asymmetric encryption routine, for storage as a first user key blob;
  - encrypting the session key, with a master public key using the asymmetric encryption routine, for storage as a master key blob;
  - storing a first user private key on any media;
  - decrypting the user key blob using the asymmetric encryption routine providing the first system with access to the session key; and
  - the first system decrypting the data using the symmetric encryption routine and securely transmitting the data to the first system.
2. – 6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in claim 1, further comprising storing the first user's private key on a data storage medium coupled to a destination data processing system.
8. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in claim 1, further comprising storing the master private key on a data storage medium coupled to the destination data processing system.

9. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in claim 7, further comprising retrieving the first user's private key from a smart card utilizing a smart card reader coupled to the destination data processing system.
10. (Previously Presented) The method, as set forth in claim 7, further comprising retrieving the master private key from a smart card utilizing a smart card reader coupled to the destination data processing system.
11. (Currently Amended) The method, as set forth in claim 1, further comprising utilizing a plurality of public-master keys and a plurality of private-master keys to decrypt the encrypted session key.
12. (Previously Presented) A method for encrypting data comprising:
- providing a first data processing system for a first user and a second data processing system for a second user;
  - providing a session key randomly generated by the second system for use in encrypting original data;
  - encrypting the data using the session key and a symmetric encryption routine;
  - encrypting the session key, with a public key of the first user using an asymmetric encryption routine, for storage as a first user key blob;
  - encrypting the session key, with a master public key using the asymmetric encryption routine, for storage as a master key blob;
  - storing a first user private key on any media;
  - decrypting the user key blob using the asymmetric encryption routine providing the first system with access to the session key; and
  - the first system decrypting the data using the symmetric encryption routine and securely transmitting the data to the first system and;
  - a third party gaining access to the data using a master private key to decrypt the master key blob using the asymmetric encryption routine and gain access to the original data.
- 13.- 17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein the first user's private key is stored on a data storage medium coupled to the second data processing system.
19. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein the master private key is stored on a data storage medium coupled to the second data processing system.
20. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 12, further comprising a smart card reader coupled to the second data processing system and operable to retrieve the first user's private key from a smart card.
21. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 12, further comprising a smart card reader coupled to the second data processing system and operable to retrieve the master private key from a smart card.
22. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 12, further comprising:
  - a plurality of master private keys; and
  - a plurality of master public keys.
- 23.– 29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) A method for encrypting data comprising:
- providing a first data processing system for a first user and a second data processing system for a second user;
  - the second user sending the first user a data file;
  - the second system randomly generating a session key for use in encrypting original data in the data file;
  - using the session key, the second system encrypting the data using a symmetric encryption routine;
  - encrypting the session key, with a public key of the first user using an asymmetric encryption routine, for storage as a first user key blob within the encrypted data;
  - encrypting the session key with a master public key using the asymmetric encryption routine, for storage as a master key blob within the encrypted data;
  - transmitting the encrypted data to the first system;
  - storing a first user private key on any media;
  - decrypting the user key blob using the asymmetric encryption routine providing the first system with access to the randomly generated session key;
  - the first system decrypting the data using the symmetric encryption routine and securely transmitting the data to the first system; and
  - a third party gaining access to the data using a master private key to decrypt the master key blob using the asymmetric encryption routine and gain access to the original data.